

FLO
404
25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone) **RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY** DATE DISTR. 17 NOV 49

SUBJECT Volkspolizei and Russian Troop Training Activities in the Area North of Berlin NO. OF PAGES 2 25X1A

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED] 25X1 SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

[REDACTED]

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT SO THAT THE TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

[REDACTED]

1. Prenzlau (Q04), 10 September

The airfield and adjacent buildings are held by about 3,000 Volkspolizei who are busily engaged in training and in reconditioning buildings, garages, and erecting large barbed wire and wooden fences. Between 600 and 800 of these police were observed drilling in squads and platoons. They were equipped with pistols, automatic pistols, and rifles. Duties were performed with enthusiasm. Only individual Soviet soldiers were seen.

2. Eberswalde (V08), 15-17 September

a. Strength is estimated at 4,000 men as follows: armored, 1,500; motorized rifle, 1,500; artillery, 500; mortar and AT, evenly divided, 500. From 30 to 40 percent of these troops are old hands in the area, the rest being 1928 classmen who arrived during spring 1949 and were temporarily allocated to the Schorfheide area. These recruits have completed basic training.

b. Tanks observed were eight T-34/35, twelve JS-1 and JS-2. Local workers stated that there were forty more tanks in sheds. The same men claimed to have seen twelve 76.2 mm guns and twelve 120 mm mortars. The tanks are said to have arrived from a northerly direction about 1 September.

c. An unusual number of cars were parked in front of one building which may hold a divisional staff; among them were staff cars [REDACTED] Small groups of officers and BM with marching equipment, arriving daily by rail, report to this building and then leave in the direction of Bad Freienwalde.

25X1

25X1

25X1

3. Bad Freienwalde (U28), 22 September

Strength is estimated at 1,500 armored and artillerymen, half of whom were previously here and half are recruits, all of whom have been returning by rail from the Schorfheide area in small groups.* Only four JS-1 tanks were seen; local residents aver that no weapons or armor have returned as yet.

25X1

25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION		CONFIDENTIAL		DISTRIBUTION	
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Document No. [REDACTED]
No Change in Class. [REDACTED]
Class. Change To: TS S G
Auth: RR 70-2

25X1

4. Templin Maneuver Area (US1), 19-25 September

a. Extensive maneuvers began about 5 September in the Templin area. Source observed the following:

19 September - Daytime exercise, during which 800 riflemen, equipped with machine pistols, rifles and MGs, were ferried across a small lake by an engineer unit to seize and hold a bridgehead.

20 September - Combined armored, rifle and artillery exercise near Mammelspring (US1).

22 September - A night movement, lasting through the next day, involving a mass attack towards Mammelspring through Zehdenick (U70) from Gross Schönebeck (Z89). Attackers were 2,000 rifle troops, seventy armored vehicles, with equipment including twelve 300 mm rocket launchers on Studebaker trucks. Support was given by ground attack aircraft (probably controlled by an SAJ post in the area which has a staff of 100). Much of this exercise was performed with live ammunition and live hand grenades were employed during street fighting in Gross Schönebeck.

25X1C

c. Strength in the Templin training area is estimated at 35,000 men as of observation dates. This may be fluid, as an average 100 officers and EM arrive daily and a similar number depart, usually towards Eberswalde. There are three large camps in the area. About 80 percent of the barracks are on stone foundations and ready for winter occupancy. The area firing range is 12 km long and 6 km wide.

d. Pavlovski(fnu), rank unknown, is said to be the area CO. At Prenzlau the CO is Colonel Morrov, Merv of the Soviet Union, currently at school in the USSR. Identifications were made by a German works supervisor employed in the Templin training area.

* [] Comment: The reference to Schorfheide apparently is intended to include Templin.

25X1A

** [] Comment: It was believed last year that a cadre Guards armored division was located in Eberswalde and Bad Freienwalde. It would now appear that the cadre has been filled and that its staff is in Eberswalde-South.

25X1A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

25X1